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## **Senate Judiciary Committee Recommends Adoption of Self-Defense Bill**

**Lansing** – The Michigan Senate Judiciary Committee voted today to recommend passing Senate Bill 1046, a bill that establishes a citizen's right to defend him- or herself under certain circumstances.

“When Michigan citizens are forcefully attacked, they have the right to defend themselves without fear of retribution from the courts,” said Sen. Alan Cropsey, R-Dewitt, the sponsor of the bill. “This bill guarantees that lawful right by specifying the circumstances under which defensive force can occur.”

SB 1046 specifies that a person would have no duty to retreat and would be justified in using force against another person if he or she reasonably believes it necessary to prevent imminent death or great bodily harm or the imminent commission of a forcible felony. The bill also allows the use of force to prevent trespass.

The bill would only apply to a person who:

- Is lawfully allowed to be where they are;
- Is not committing a crime; and
- Reasonably believes he or she is about to be murdered, raped, or suffer great bodily harm.

“No law-abiding citizen, including members of the Senate, condones violence,” Cropsey said. “Thankfully, by clarifying the rights of self-defense, this bill will help law-abiding citizens protect themselves from violent attack.”

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**Comments from Sen. Cropsey will be available for download this afternoon  
at the Majority Multi-Media Link at [www.senate.michigan.gov/gop](http://www.senate.michigan.gov/gop).**